



GNARLY TREE  
SUSTAINABILITY  
INSTITUTE

# City of Bloomington Sustainability Action Plan Local Food and Agriculture Meeting 3

MaCie' Moore

12 April 2018

**SPEA**

Lead for the Greater Good





## Current Situation in Bloomington

- In Monroe county there was an 8.15% decrease in the number of SNAP recipients from 2017 to 2018, and a 14.4% decrease from 2018 to 2016
- In 2017 the Farmer's Market doubled \$17,000 worth of SNAP benefits, a 13.3% increase from 2016
- In 2015, Monroe County had a 18 % food insecurity rate (approximately 23,390 people)



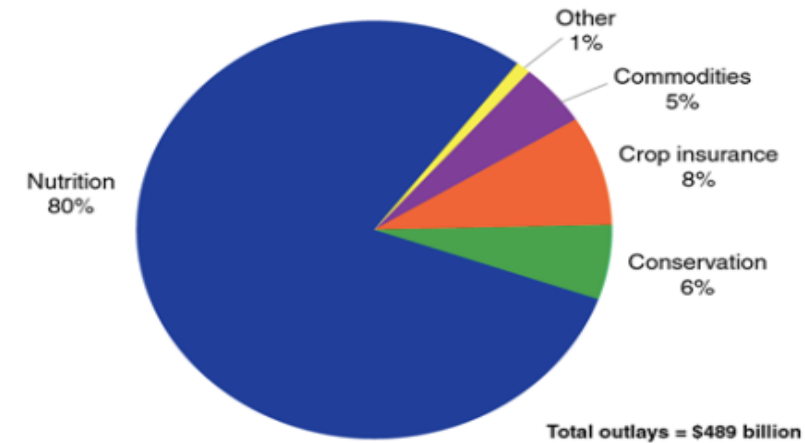
## Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)

### SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (SNAP)

	February 2018	January 2018	February 2017	Annual Change
Total issuance	\$928,385	\$910,127	\$996,928	-6.88%
Number of households receiving SNAP benefits	3,952	3,887	4,180	-5.45%
Number of recipients	7,881	7,756	8,523	-7.53%
Average issuance per household	\$234.92	\$234.15	\$238.5	-1.50%
Average issuance per recipient	\$117.8	\$117.34	\$116.97	0.71%

Notes:

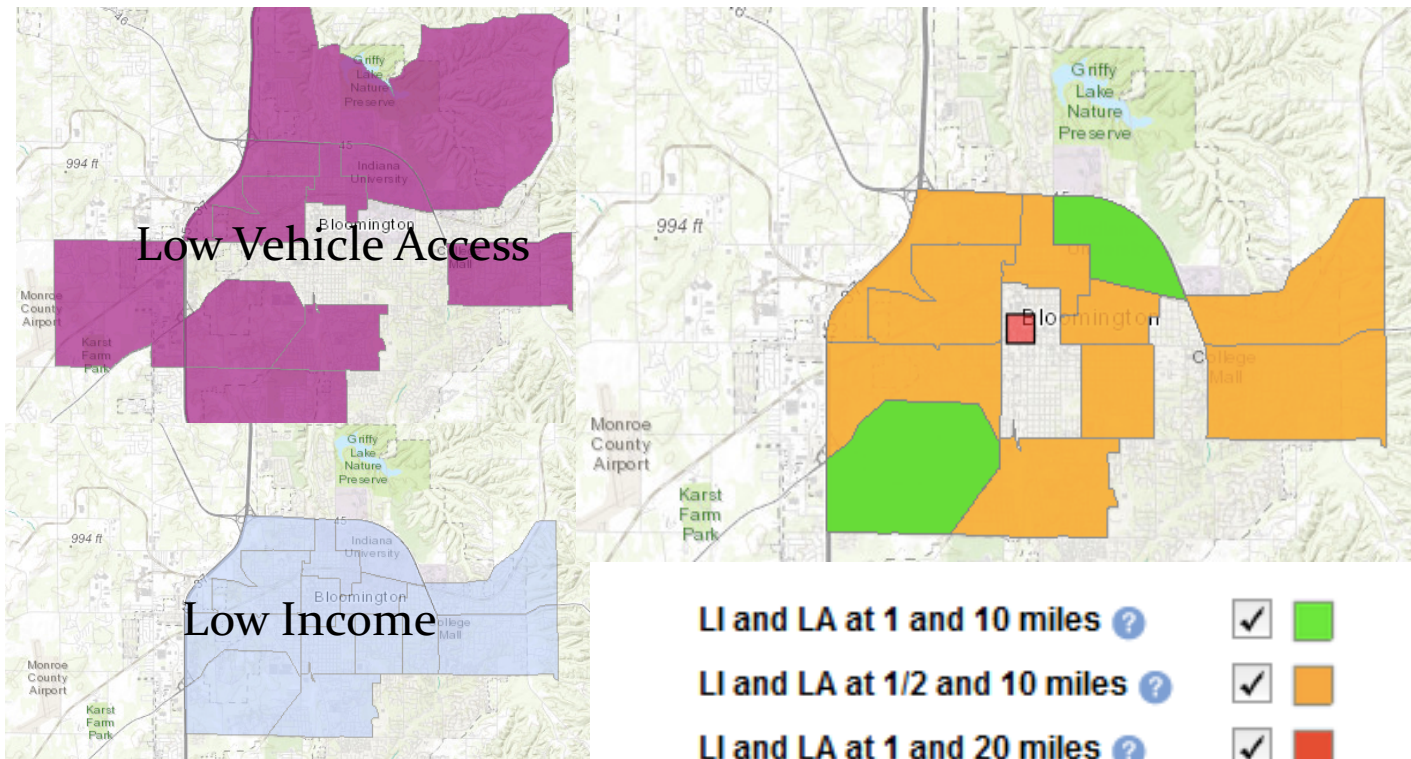
### Projected outlays under the 2014 Farm Act, 2014-2018



Source: USDA Economic Research Service using data from Congressional Budget Office, Cost Estimates for the Agricultural Act of 2014, Jan 2014.



## Food Deserts Bloomington, IN



“Shaw (2006) categorizes food desert barriers as *asset*, *ability* or *attitude*. *Asset* barriers, typically financial challenges...*Ability* barriers are the physical challenges caused by either personal disabilities or various geographic factors.... *Attitude* barriers consist of cultural values, education”

-Angela Babb and Leslie Drane, 2015 )

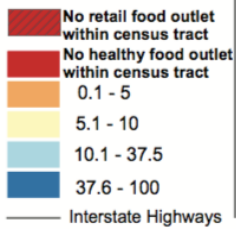


GNARLY TREE  
SUSTAINABILITY  
INSTITUTE

# Food Accessibility

## Current Situation in Bloomington

### Modified Retail Food Environment Index (By U.S. Census Tract)



Lower scores indicate that census tracts contain many convenience stores and fast food restaurants compared to the number of healthy food retailers.

A zero score indicates no healthy food retailers (supermarkets, larger groceries, produce stores, or supercenters) within the census tract.

DATA SOURCES:  
Supermarkets, Small and Large Groceries, Produce Stores, Supercenters - InfoUSA 2009

Convenience stores - Homeland Security Infrastructure Program Database 2008  
Fast-food restaurants - NAVTEQ 2009

Date of map: August, 2011

National mRFEI Score = 10  
Indiana mRFEI Score = 10

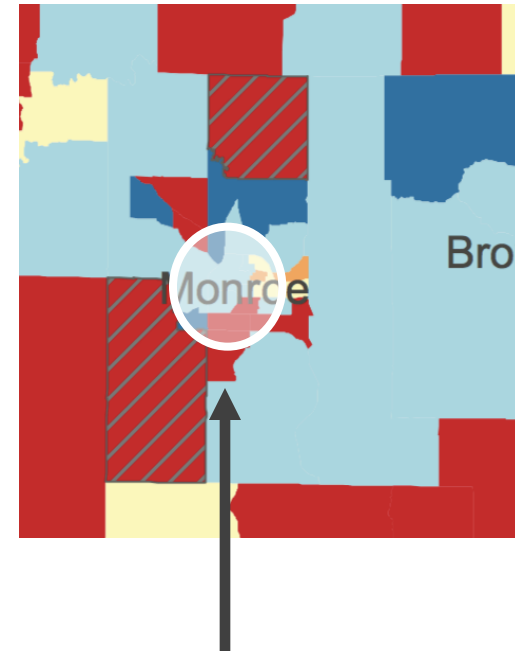
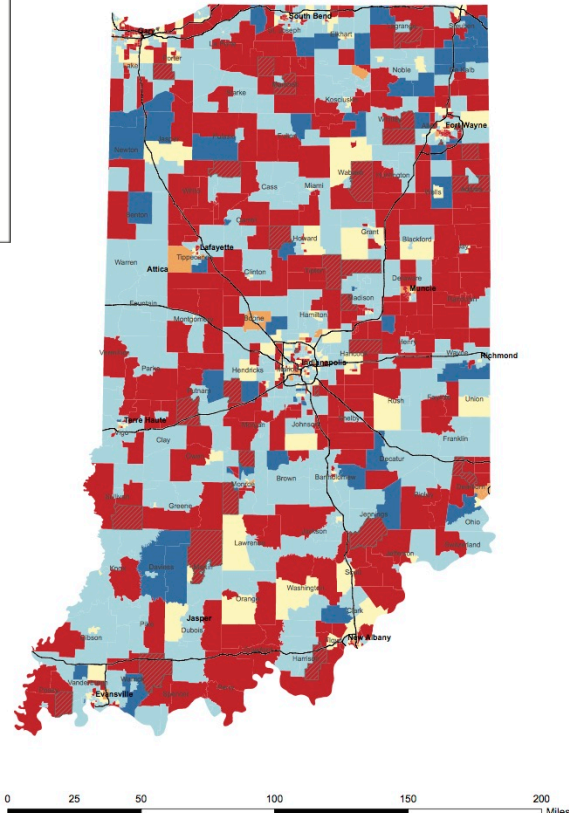
The modified Retail Food Environment Index (mRFEI) measures the number of healthy and less-healthy food retailers within a census tract using this formula:

$$\frac{\# \text{ Healthy Food Retailers}}{\# \text{ Healthy Food Retailers} + \# \text{ Less Healthy Food Retailers}} \times 100$$

For this indicator, healthy food retailers include supermarkets, larger grocery stores, supercenters, and produce stores.<sup>1</sup> Less healthy food retailers include convenience stores, fast food restaurants, and small grocery stores with 3 or fewer employees.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Data sources are listed in the legend.

### Indiana Modified Retail Food Environment Index According to Census Tract



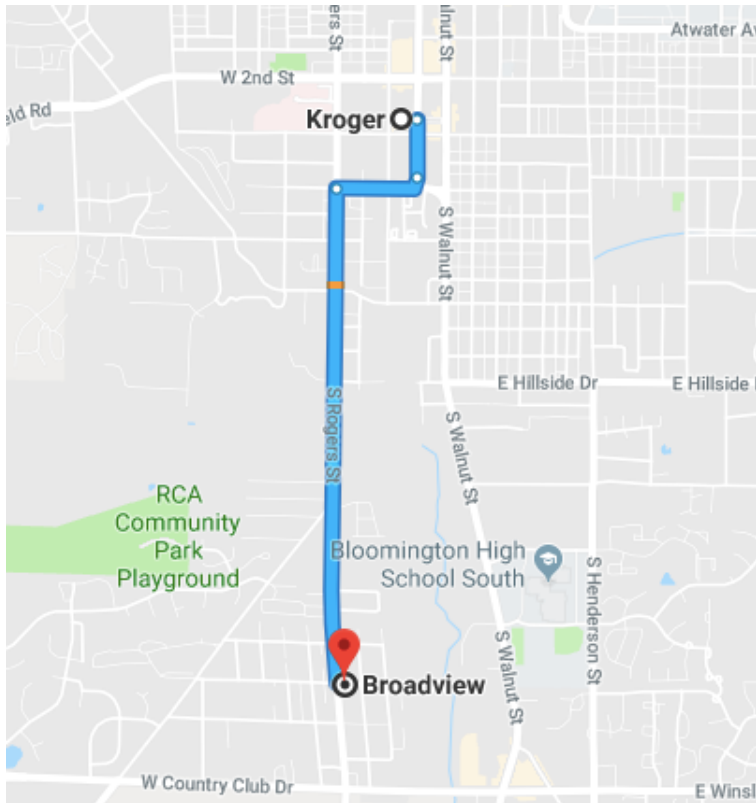
Bloomington, IN







# Food Accessibility



**1.6-1.8 miles**

5min car ride ; 34 min walk ; 26min bus (7)  
ride

## Broadview Neighborhood Plan (2003)

- Implement strategic plans identified in the Alternative Transportation and Greenways System Plan for projects detailed along Country Club Drive, Rogers Street, Rockport Road, Cherokee Drive, and the CSX corridor
- Develop a regular schedule to monitor traffic volumes and speed along Rogers Street, Rockport Road, Country Club Drive, Ralston Drive, Coolidge Drive, and Graham Drive
- NA to meet annually with Bloomington Transit (BT) to consider ways to encourage patronage of fixed routes and BT Access services

Route 7 does not operate on Saturday or Sunday or during IU break periods such as Labor Day, winter break, spring break and summer break. Last route 9:05PM.



## Community Goals found in Bloomington Documents

### **Bloomington Parks and Recreation Master Plan**

- Position Department Activities, Programs, and Partnerships to Positively Impact Community Health
  - The Department shall continue to provide healthy food choices via programs such as the Farmers' Market and Community Gardens.
  - Continue to promote the Farmers' Market as Bloomington's go-to location for the purchase of fresh food in the promotion of healthy diets.
- Ensure that programs and events are more readily available across the city and based in neighborhoods to eliminate potential access barriers
- Expand Department Trail System to Improve Connectivity with Other Active Design Assets
  - Create a walkable/bikeable Bloomington that connects all sides of the city via designated walking and biking trails that allow for safe, non-motorized travel across the city
  - Create a healthier community where people have more opportunities to use non-motorized methods of travel to go to work and school, thus decreasing roadway traffic and environmental impacts





## Community Goals found in Bloomington Documents

### **Comprehensive Plan**

- Nurture a resilient, environmentally responsible community by judiciously using our scarce resources, enhancing our natural assets, protecting our historic resources, and supporting a vital local food system
- Work to provide residents with access to sustainable, resilient local food sector.
- Assess “Bloomington’s Food System: A First Look” and partner with the Bloomington Food Policy Council, other community organizations, residents, businesses, schools, and government agencies to implement the goals of the Bloomington Food Charter
- Improved access of neighborhood housing to community amenities and essential services.

### **Bloomington Food Policy Council- Food Charter**

- Champion the right of all residents to adequate amounts of safe, nutritious, accessible, and affordable food without the need to resort to emergency food providers
- Consider food as an essential component of the planning process when determining land-use and transportation policies in order to assure adequate access to healthful food and to increase neighborhood access points for local food



## Metrics Found in Bloomington Documents

### **Bloomington Parks and Recreation Master Plan**

- No Metric

### **Bloomington Food Charter**

- No metrics

### **Comprehensive Plan**

- Food desert inventory
- Economic value of local food economy
- Percentage of dwelling units within a 0.25-mile and 0.5 mile walk of a grocery store and/or farmers market
- Walk and transit scores of parks, schools, community service providers, health care facility locations, and subsidized housing



## Metrics Used in Other Cities

- Transit ridership per vehicle miles traveled
- Reduction of sidewalk gaps, increase in number of crosswalks and ADA-compliant ramps
- Increased accessibility to transit
- Create measurement tool to develop a baseline of existing neighborhood levels of access to healthy eating and active living opportunities
- Stimulate collaboration among community organizations, institutions, neighborhoods, and governments



## Metrics Recommended in STAR

### **Health & Safety-4: Food access & nutrition - Outcome 2: Food security and assistance**

- Increased percentage of county residents overall AND children who are food secure;
- Increased percentage of farmers markets accepting federal food assistance through the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) or the Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) program; or an increase in food security for low-income families as measured by a community survey

### **Health & Safety-4: Food access & nutrition - Outcome 3: access to healthful Food**

- Food Desert Locator

### **Built Environments: Compact & Complete Communities- Outcome 2: Walkability**

- 90% of roadways contain sidewalks on both sides



## Actions Used in Other Cities

- Improved transit ridership- Increased public transit opportunities through giving 160 residents 25-ride bus passes, and receiving 162 annual bus pass donations- **Columbia, Missouri**
- Double Bucks Program – **Lawrence, Kansas; Denver, Colorado**
- Creation of the Denver Regional Equity Atlas-maps origins and destinations of residents to analyze how equitably the existing transit network connects people in the region with their homes, schools, jobs, and health centers- **Denver, Colorado**
- Healthy Neighborhood Market Network- HNMN program helps small stores procure and sell healthy food and helps in the delivery of workshops for small shop owners on technical, marketing, and produce management skills – **Los Angeles, California**
- Fresh Food Retailer Initiative (FFRI)- citywide program to encourage grocery stores to locate in low-income, underserved neighborhoods – **New Orleans, Louisiana**





## Actions Recommended in STAR

- Provide incentives for healthful retail food outlets to locate in underserved areas or mobile vendors that only sell fresh food
- Adopt zoning and development regulations that limit or prohibit the sale of unhealthful foods
- Purchase and sell healthful food at facilities owned, leased, and operated by the local government
- Implement an “Increase Your Food Bucks” program for farmers markets
- Adopt regulatory strategies that permit or incentivize increased residential and employment densities and diverse uses in transit-served areas and areas identified for compact, mixed-use development
- Require, incentivize, or subsidize creation of affordable housing in transit-served areas and areas identified for compact, mixed-use development



GNARLY TREE  
SUSTAINABILITY  
INSTITUTE

# Food Accessibility

## Thank You

Questions and Answers